

Chad says 112 Libyans killed

PARIS (R) — Chadian troops killed 112 Libyan soldiers and captured 24 in new fighting on Friday in the north of the Central African country, a government statement said. The statement issued by Chad's Paris embassy said fighting broke out when government troops intercepted a Libyan column heading for the Ithwan base at Ouadi Doum. An embassy spokesman said the clash occurred near the locality of Bir Fara, on a supply route to the desert base. Ouadi Doum, in the north of the country, is the site of Libya's main airfield in Chad and is protected by some 6,000 men, the largest concentration of Libyan troops. The military statement said the Libyans had included three officers. It reported only one Chadian killed. It was the highest number of Libyan casualties reported since January, when Chad said it had killed 193 Libyans in fighting for control of the Zouar oasis in the northwestern mountain region of Tibesti. There was no independent confirmation of the statement but French officials said such claims usually proved more or less accurate for enemy casualties.

Jordan Times

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PLO appeals for U.N. help

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has called on the U.N. Security Council and Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for measures to halt the shelling of refugee camps in Lebanon. In a letter to Mr. Perez de Cuellar, PLO Representative Nasser Al Kidwa said the situation in the camps was critical and should not be tolerated by the international community. "It is also clear that this situation is heading towards a new disaster for the Palestinian people," he said in the letter, which was circulated among U.N. delegations on Friday. Mr. Kidwa said food and medical supplies had not reached the Bourj Al Barajneh camp since March 3 and the Shatila camp since Feb. 27. "Rashidieh camp has received no relief supplies at all," he said. The PLO representative reminded the secretary general of the Security Council's Jan. 13 call "on the parties concerned to observe an immediate ceasefire and to permit access to these camps for humanitarian purposes."

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Physically handicapped get married

AMMAN (Petra) — Two Jordanian physically handicapped got married on Friday at the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped. The 28-year-old groom, Wafa Ahmad Jaber runs an auto-maintenance shop while his bride, Aydeh Mohammad Sheishani, has a B.A. degree in business management from the University of Jordan. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Princess Majeda wished the couple a happy life.

Amnesty reports Lebanon 'massacres'

LONDON (AP) — Amnesty International has called for an inquiry into reported massacres of men, women and children in Lebanon by Syrian troops and Syrian-backed militia. The London-based human rights organisation said more than 200 civilians were slain in the northern city of Tripoli last December following the deaths of 15 Syrian soldiers. On Feb. 25, Syrian troops lined up 23 supporters of Hizbollah against a wall in Beirut and shot them, Amnesty said. Hundreds of people have disappeared in both cities after being seized by Syrian troops or handed over by the Amal militia.

Amal announces major shake-up

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon's mainstream Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia has announced a major shake-up of its command in South Lebanon, replacing its two main political and military chiefs in the region. An Amal statement issued on Thursday said Daoud Daoud, the movement's longtime military chief in the south, and political leader Mahmoud Fakhri were removed from their posts and named members of Amal's politburo, which is headquartered in west Beirut. The statement said politburo members Atef Aoun and Abdul Majid Saleh were appointed respectively in Mr. Daoud's and Mr. Fakhri's posts with headquarters in the southern port cities of Tyre and Sidon.

British alliance scores record victory

LONDON (R) — Britain's centrist alliance on Friday won their second by-election in two weeks by a record margin, boosting their hopes of emerging as a credible third force in elections expected this summer or autumn. Matthew Taylor, candidate for the Liberal Party which forms the alliance with the Social Democrats, retained the seat of Truro, in the south-western county of Cornwall, and at 24 became the youngest member of parliament. His margin of 14,617 votes over second-placed Conservative candidate Nicholas St. Aubyn was also the largest in liberal history.

Britain to appeal spy book verdict

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Friday her government would likely appeal an Australian court ruling that allows British former secret service officer Peter Wright to publish his controversial memoirs. "We are expecting an appeal against the judgment," she told reporters during a visit to Wales (See story on page 8).

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Fahd and Benjedid agree on need to hold Arab summit

Joint statement calls for end to Gulf war and solution to Lebanese civil strife

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia and Algeria have agreed that an Arab summit should be convened to adopt a new strategy to settle inter-Arab disputes by dialogue and negotiation, according to a joint communique.

The communique was issued Thursday night after a 24-hour visit by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia who had talks with President Chadli Benjedid. It said the two leaders were convinced that conditions should be created to bring about the 13th Arab summit to "elaborate a new strategy of Arab solidarity based on the elimination of inter-Arab disputes and the adoption of good neighbourliness, dialogue and negotiation to settle disputes between Arab countries."

Inter-Arab disputes have delayed the holding of the 13th summit, planned for Riyadh, since the last regular heads of state conference was held in the Moroccan city of Fez in 1982.

The communique made no mention of the Western Sahara conflict. The eleven-year-old desert war is a major concern for

Algeria which backs Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for independence of the former Spanish colony.

Saudi Arabia has tried several times in the past to mediate in the Sahara conflict, and King Fahd arrived in neighbouring Morocco on Thursday to confer with King Hassan.

The Saudi-Algerian communique also called for an immediate end to the Iran-Iraq war through peaceful negotiations. It also called for a solution to the Lebanese civil war based on the integrity and sovereignty of the Lebanon.

Moroccan officials said King Fahd was expected to stay in Morocco for several days.

In Algiers, he held two rounds of talks with President Benjedid. This talks, first in private and then with the full delegations, covered means of strengthening

bilateral relations, the situation in the Arab World and international issues, the Algerian news agency APS said.

The Saudi foreign and oil ministers took part in the discussions along with the Algerian foreign and finance ministers, it said.

In a speech at a ceremony when King Fahd was awarded Algeria's Athir Medal, Algerian official Omar Benaouda said the decoration expressed Algerian thanks to the Saudi kingdom for the moral and material support it gave to the Algerian revolution.

He said it was a sign of appreciation of the king's "steadfast action in promoting unity of thought and action in Arab and Islamic ranks."

It was also a homage to the role played by the king in the propagation of Islam, his firm positions in the Non-Aligned Movement and his struggle to establish a fair, new world economic order, Mr. Benaouda said.

During the same ceremony, King Fahd awarded President Benjedid the Great Badr Order, Saudi Arabia's highest distinction, APS said.

Libya and Tunis reportedly agree to settle differences

TUNIS (Agencies) — Libya and Tunisia have agreed to settle by the end of April disputes outstanding since they broke off diplomatic ties nearly 18 months ago, a Tunisian newspaper said Friday.

Tunis would consider normalising its relations with Tripoli if Libya satisfied demands including compensation for expelled Tunisian migrant workers and released frozen assets, the independent daily Le Temps reported. This pledge was made at two days of talks this week between a Libyan envoy and Tunisian government ministers, it said.

The envoy, Major Hamidi Khoulidi, who is responsible for security affairs, had talks here on Thursday with President Habib Bourguiba, the first high-level contact since the rift.

Maj. Khoulidi said after meeting the 83-year-old head of state that

he hoped their two countries would very soon be on good terms again, the official TAP news agency reported.

"We hope... that our relations will very soon be... at their best, especially as we have built foundations for these relations and many questions have been clarified," TAP quoted Maj. Khoulidi as saying.

Tunisia severed relations with Libya in September, 1985, after Libya expelled more than 30,000 Tunisian workers and their families.

Tunisia says it wants the workers compensated and Tunisian assets in Libya released before it will consider resuming relations.

A sum of \$6.5 million of frozen assets of Tunisian state airline Tunis-Air, out of a total \$9 million, has been paid back, Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk said on Monday.

Armacost due in Moscow

MOSCOW (Agencies) — U.S. Under-Secretary of State Michael Armacost is due in Moscow on Sunday for talks with high-level Soviet officials on key regional issues.

The U.S. State Department has stressed that Mr. Armacost's talks will focus on U.S.-Soviet differences over Afghanistan, Nicaragua and other matters.

But they also said the outcome of the discussions could have an impact on arms control talks next month between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Mr. Armacost is scheduled to meet with Yuri Vorontsov, who is his counterpart in the Soviet hierarchy, and other high-level officials.

A senior U.S. official said he expected that the Moscow talks would cover the Soviet Union's problem in Afghanistan, the Middle East, specifically the peace process and the Iran-Iraq war; African issues, such as southern Africa, Libya's involvement in Chad and developments in the Horn of Africa; and Asian matters.

The Moscow meeting has drawn more interest now that Vorontsov has also been named Soviet negotiator at the Geneva arms control talks and there is new optimism that the superpowers could reach agreement on a treaty eliminating intermediate range nuclear missiles in Europe.

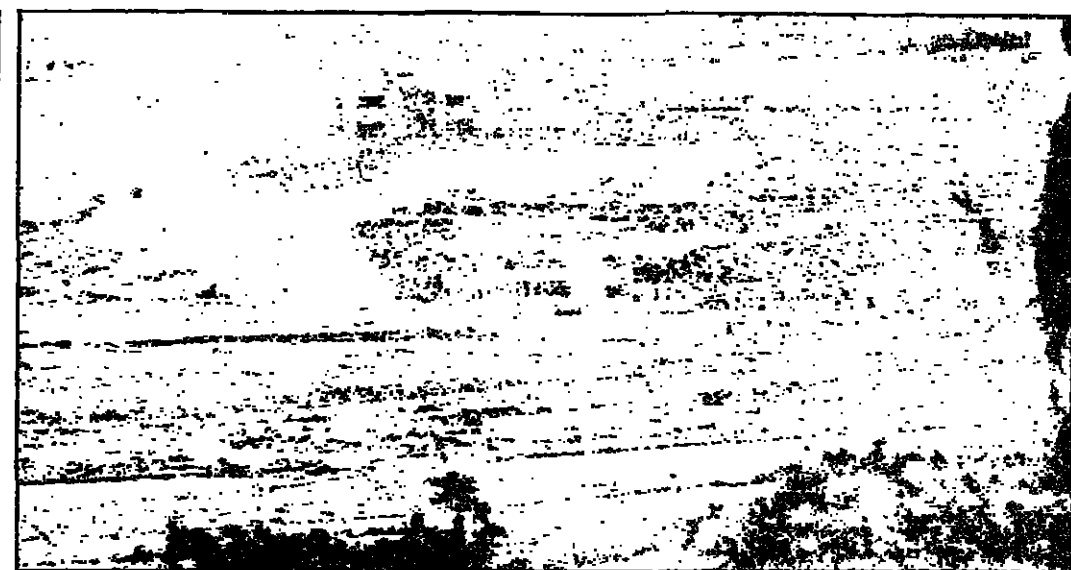
In Geneva, U.S. negotiators have proposed measures to the Soviet Union for on-site inspections to ensure compliance with a draft treaty to cut medium-range missiles.

The U.S. mission said the verification measures put forward in Geneva on Thursday completed its draft treaty presented on March 4.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters the proposals included "inspection and a permanent presence" at key installations to monitor adherence to a treaty now under negotiation.

The superpowers began a special session of arms control talks on the intermediate-range nuclear force (INF) in Geneva on Tuesday. It is expected to continue for another week.

Soviets conduct second nuclear test, page 8



An Amman suburb after Friday's rains and snow fall (Photo by Youssef Al Allan)

Queen urges Security Council to work for international conference

OXFORD, England (Agencies) — Her Majesty Queen Noor has backed calls for an international conference to work towards peace in the Middle East.

Queen Noor told the Oxford Union debating society Tuesday night the conference should include the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council as well as concerned parties and Palestinian representatives.

"We believe that the proposal for an international conference has gained momentum and... wider recognition. Time is of the essence and we urge the five permanent members of the Security Council to prepare the ground for the earliest possible convening of the conference," the Queen said.

Following are major excerpts from the Queen's speech: "The Palestinian Arab peoples' inalienable right to their homes and land was challenged by European Zionism at the beginning of this century. Ultimately, the Zionist will prevail — but only with the aid of European powers. The British government reneged on the promises it had so solemnly entered into with the leader of the Great Arab Revolt, my husband's great grandfather, Sherif Hussein of Mecca, the chosen standard-bearer of the Arab peoples."

Majali elected journalists association president

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Rakan Al Majali was elected president of the Jordan Press Association (JPA) on Friday with a 10-vote margin against his only rival, Ibrahim Sakkiha, who secured 81 votes in an election which saw an unprecedented turnout in the 34-year history of the association.

In addition to electing Mr. Majali, the 174 journalists who took part in the four-hour balloting process at the Amman Chamber of Commerce also elected a nine-member executive council. Both the president and the council will serve for a two-year term.

Observers said the high turnout — only 10 members were absent — amid snow and bad weather reflected an increasing interest among Jordanian journalists in the workings of the JPA.

Technically, the nine-member council was elected Friday but the voting process involved only six of the seats since the JPA law of 1983 provides for three seats to be reserved for representatives of the private sector in press and publishing business.

These three seats were won by nomination by Fakhri Abu Hamdeh (editor-in-chief of the weekly Fares magazine), Fayez Hamdan (editor-in-chief of the Al Ithnain weekly) and Hassan Al Tal (editor-in-chief of the Al Liwa weekly).

A total of 10 candidates vied for the remaining six of the council seats. They represented the



ly entered into with the leader of the Great Arab Revolt, my husband's great grandfather, Sherif Hussein of Mecca, the chosen standard-bearer of the Arab peoples.

This betrayal is at the root of today's tragedy. It is a tragedy ensnaring Arabs and Israelis alike, though its principal victims are the Arab people of Palestine. Nonetheless, King Hussein has clung resolutely to the principles of his Hashemite forebears. So if you were to ask, were we wrong to believe the promises of our

U.S. Senate resumes contras debate after house freezes aid

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Senate has resumed debate on arming Nicaragua's contra rebels after voting 97-1 to commend a new Central American peace plan.

The real target, said Democratic Senator James Sasser, on Thursday, is not aid already in the pipeline but future aid requests by Republican President Ronald Reagan.

The House of Representatives voted 230-196 on Wednesday to freeze \$40 million in aid to the contras for six months pending an accounting of how previous aid was spent.

And Democrats said Congress likely would balk at future requests.

Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd said Mr. Reagan would have a hard time winning approval of the additional \$105 million in contra aid he has requested for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

Mr. Byrd and other leaders seeking to end U.S. aid to the contras said they will not be able to stop the release of the \$40 million — the last installment of a \$100-million aid package approved last year — because they cannot muster the two-thirds majority needed to override a presidential veto.

Future contra aid requests would be easier to block because only simple house and Senate majorities would be needed. Democrats control both houses of Congress.

Still, Mr. Sasser and other contra aid opponents said they would seek votes now to subject the \$40 million to a six-month moratorium or to deny it outright, even though they recognised they would not prevail on that issue.

Lagos says calm returning after 13 killed in riots

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — The official death toll from religious rioting in northern Nigeria has risen to 13 and at least 489 people have been arrested.

Nigeria Radio reported Friday. The independent Punch newspaper reported Thursday that more than 100 people had died in the disturbances.

The radio broadcast, monitored in Abidjan, said the latest deaths were two people killed in Kaduna. Army troops and special riot police shot one man while patrolling the streets of Kaduna.

No other details on the other death were given.

The government radio said 489 people have been arrested in the Kaduna state towns of Kaduna, Zaria, Sabongari, Kaiwo, Andua-Sanuku, Tulu-Kawa and Tudun Wada. Arrests also were reported in the Kano state town of Kafanchan, where the rioting began

Rains and snow lash Jordan

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Heavy rains, interspersed by snow and hail storms — drenched Jordan all day and most of the night on Friday and the Meteorology Department said it expected more of the same through midday Saturday.

The effect of a cold front sweeping the country is expected to gradually subside on Saturday, bringing up temperatures and partially clearing the skies, a spokesman for the Meteorology Department said.

He said the current depression originated in north of Greece and Turkey, moved towards the Kingdom accompanied by low temperatures and heavy rains. Similar precipitation was expected last week, but the depression moved away before realising its effects on the Kingdom, the spokesman explained.

"More than 10 such cold fronts could have swept the country in the last few days," he said, explaining that "what happened then was a change in wind direction and other environmental conditions, different from those happening now."

The depression will be followed by a high pressure, presently building up at central Mediterranean and will start affecting Jordan starting Saturday afternoon, the spokesman said.

"This is the first time that at snow this late in March since 1967," said the spokesman.

Reports of accidents of various kinds kept pouring into police stations all over the Kingdom, a spokesman for the Public Security Department (PSD) said. According to the spokesman, the bulk of the accidents were on the roads — car overturning and sliding. The exact number of cases was not known.

The PSD cautioned motorists against slippery roads and mist.

rum Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The following won the six seats: Marwan Al Shraideh, Petra (99 votes), Mousa Al Azrai, Petra (96), Ahmad Zougallat, Petra (95), Youssef Al Abi, Al Ra'i (90), Ahmad Hisban, Al Dostour (83) and Fakhri Al Nimri, Sawt Al Shaab (75). The four who lost the race were: Mohammad Al Abbadi (Petra — 78), Abdullah Hamdan (freelance journalist — 71), Mohammad Said Midheh (freelance — 58) and Zoubdi Al Badri (freelancer — 41). None of the 18 female members of the JPA ran for office.

Journalists interviewed by the Jordan Times appeared to be evenly split between Mr. Majali and Mr. Sakkiha. Both candidates are well known for their wide contacts, strong personalities and flexibility, the journalists said. Furthermore, they hardly differed on their policy goals during campaigning which included an open debate.

Their pledges centred on augmenting the revenues of the association's budget and to expand the coverage of the recently introduced pension scheme.

one week ago.

The situation had remained calm since midnight but army and police continued their patrols in the affected areas, the radio said.

On Thursday the army threatened to shoot rioters on sight and state governors appealed for calm. The military governor of Lagos, Mike Akhigbe, called on religious leaders to fight social injustice rather than causing disunity in the country.

Captain Akhigbe warned religious leaders the state government would not tolerate any unnecessary demonstrations or disturbances and told them to report any suspected religious fanatics to the law enforcement agents.

"No religion allows you to kill people," Inspector General Muhammadu Gambo, the West African nation's top policeman, told newspapers in Lagos.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Syrian industry minister due today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Syrian Minister of Industry Ali Al Tarabulsi is due in Amman today on a two-day official visit to Jordan, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Friday. During his visit, Mr. Tarabulsi will hold talks with his Jordanian counterpart Rajai Muasher and senior officials on bilateral industrial relations and means of developing them. Mr. Tarabulsi will also take part in the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Industrial Company, which will convene here within the next two days.

Desert locusts pose new threat

AMMAN (Petra) — Reports issued by the international centre for combating desert locusts say that the situation is still grave along the Red Sea shore, near Sudan and Ethiopia and that new swarms of locusts might invade the Arab peninsula and some Near Eastern countries. Ministry of Agriculture sources have said. The sources added that ministry teams are monitoring strategic locations adjacent to the Saudi borders in cooperation with the concerned authorities.

UNESCO director leaves for Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Amadou Mbow Thursday left for Cairo at the end of a several day visit to Jordan. During his stay Mr. Mbow held meetings with Jordanian officials on means of developing and bolstering relations between Jordan and UNESCO and he attended the inauguration on March 8 of two UNESCO regional offices in Amman. Mr. Mbow also visited educational, archaeological and tourism sites in Jordan. He was seen off at the airport by Ministry of Education Secretary General Ahmad Bashairah, the ministry's cultural relations director Sameh Al Khafsi and officials from the UNESCO regional offices.

Iraqi vice premier receives envoy

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz on Thursday received Jordanian Ambassador in Baghdad Saleh Al Kabriti on the occasion of the end of his term in office. During the meeting they reviewed bilateral relations between the two countries.

Hmoud requests data on projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al Hmoud has asked all directors of agriculture departments to provide the General Statistics Department with lists of the agricultural projects in the various governorates and their locations. In a communique, Mr. Hmoud asked all directors to include detailed information on locations of projects and their production. He also called on them to supply the Statistics Department with information on projects on land leased to the private sector to enable the department to collect information on the areas under cultivation and the production capacity of these projects.

U.S. women's delegation visits Petra

AMMAN (J.T.) — A U.S. women's delegation Friday visited the historical city of Petra in the southern region. On Thursday the delegation visited several centres for the handicapped in Amman where they inspected rehabilitation and training programmes. They also visited the Roman amphitheatre and the two museums at the site. The 15-member delegation, represents the Friendship Among Women (FAW) organisation in the United States.

Zarqa awards tender for monument

ZARQA (Petra) — The Zarqa Development Corporation (ZDC) on Thursday awarded a tender for setting up a monument and a fountain at the petroleum refinery circle in Zarqa. The cost of the project is estimated at JD 4,000.

AAU team leaves for board meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Amman-based Association of Arab Universities (AAU) and headed by the union's secretary general, Dr. Mohammad Al Dughaim, Thursday left for Latakia, to take part in the association's board meeting.

Dudin, mayor of Nablus hold talks on development programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin on Thursday received the mayor of the occupied Arab city of Nablus Hafez Touqan for discussions on projects to be implemented in the city.

Mr. Dudin stressed the Jordanian government's interest in supporting Nablus Municipality's projects and briefed Mr. Touqan on the tasks entrusted to the newly-formed development committees in the occupied Arab territories.

Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Under Secretary Ahmad Qatnani on Thursday received a cooperative delegation from the West Bank and briefed them on the economic and social development programme for the West Bank and the steps taken to implement the programme.

Dr. Qatnani said the programme was designed to extend assistance from the Jordanian government to various sectors and pointed out that co-operative organisations would be major beneficiaries of the programme. The ministry, he said, supports and encourages the establishment of cooperative societies since they play an important role in developing and improving agriculture, housing and social services.

Later in the day, Dr. Qatnani received the British charge d'Affaires in Amman and the newly-appointed British consul in the occupied Arab city of Jerusalem.

Dr. Qatnani reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territories and briefed them on Jordan's efforts to assist Arab citizens there.

Hindawi announces JD 30m allocation for school projects

KARAK (Petra) — Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi Thursday announced that the Social Security Corporation (SSC) has allocated JD 30 million to the ministry for spending on badly needed school buildings and other facilities.

During a visit to Karak as part of his series of visits to education departments, the minister said that His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan have shown great concern and interest in the development of Jordan's educational system. He went on to say that his ministry has taken measures to try and improve the quality of education in the Kingdom and is trying to pinpoint any faults and

shortcomings in the system as a first step towards sorting out problems. Mr. Hindawi went on to outline the ministry's new administrative organisation which, he said, was drawn up to give regional education departments, schools and teachers more authority and to involve them in decision making concerning education.

The minister also said that his visits to educational institutions and his meetings with educationalists were being conducted so that he could learn more about the situation in the field. He added that any problems in the education sector should be solved through open and responsible dialogue.

Study on national housing strategy nears completion

AMMAN (Petra) — Housing Corporation Director General Shafiq Zawaidh Friday said that the Ministry of Planning would soon complete a comprehensive study on a housing strategy for the next 20 years.

He also said that the study would include a comprehensive perception of all sites for housing projects and that these sites

would be specified in a manner which would meet the needs of all sectors of citizens.

The corporation has always been seeking local financing sources for its housing projects and re-lends these funds to citizens at an additional five per cent interest rate with the deficit covered by the government, Mr. Zawaidh continued.

Labour union official addresses Arab conference in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Deputy vice-president of the federation of Jordanian trade unions Ali Bani Hani has called for finding means to reverse the Arab brain drain and for giving Arab manpower priority in employment. In a speech he delivered Thursday at the Arab labour conference, held in Baghdad, Mr. Bani Hani hailed the steadfastness of Arab labourers in the occupied Arab

territories in the face of Israeli oppression and arbitrary measures.

He also praised the people and army of Iraq in their defence of Iraqi and Arab territories against Iranian expansionist schemes in the Arab World. In his speech, Mr. Bani Hani also reviewed issues related to development and employment and their role in contemporary Arab life.

Jordan, Scotland explore possibilities for cooperation, joint ventures

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Scotland are looking into the possibility of drawing up bases for cooperation and the transfer of Scottish technology to Jordan as well as launching joint ventures in both countries, according to a group of Scottish economists and businessmen currently in Amman.

Speaking at a press conference, the five-member delegation said that a Jordanian delegation was scheduled to visit Scotland in the next few months to sign the minutes of an agreement on joint cooperation.

The Scottish group currently visiting the Kingdom includes Mr. Jim Sinnars from the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce,

Mr. Mark Cox from the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Robert McEwan from the Scottish Development Agency and Dr. Mike Yendell representing the eight Scottish universities.

The basis of joint-cooperation, according to Mr. Sinnars, is to study the feasibility of launching joint venture partnerships between the private sectors in both countries, which would transfer Scottish technology and technical skills to Jordan with mutual benefits.

In reply to a question Mr. Sinnars identified the potential areas of cooperation to be tourism, banking, software systems, industry and agriculture.

Prospects for bilateral cooperation, Mr. Sinnars added, are good and he cited Jordan's realistic economic planning, highly-skilled and adaptable labour force and good investment environment as positive factors. Scotland on the

other hand, is known for engineering and manufacturing skills and a well-developed service sector, said Mr. Sinnars, who is also a former official at the British Foreign Ministry.

According to chairman of the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce Burhan Dajani, several Jordanian private sector and public sector companies have expressed enthusiasm over initiating joint ventures in cooperation with Scottish companies. Dr. Dajani told the Jordan Times that the Jordanian side was keen to promote relations with Scotland on that basis.

Mr. Sinnars said Scotland and Jordan could later broaden the scope of cooperation to cover other Arab countries. Scotland could also play a decisive role in expanding Scottish-Arab relations to cover other countries in the European Community (EC), he said.

West German magazine praises Crown Prince's support to science

AMMAN (J.T.) — A West German scientific magazine has praised His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's efforts and his continuous encouragement to Jordanian researchers and scientists, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported on Friday.

In a major article, the West German magazine Energy Spectrum, said that the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) enjoys the full support of Prince Hassan, who is also president of its board of trustees. The RSS has now reached an advanced level which qualifies it to be a model which can be emulated by developing countries, the report continued.

This high standard at the RSS, the magazine said, prompted the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GIZ) to choose the RSS as an active partner in the field of research in Jordan.

The magazine went on to say that the West German government spent DM 3.5 million on energy research at the RSS up to the end of the year 1985.

The magazine said that although this amount is comparatively small in relation to the volume of spending required for undertaking comprehensive energy research in Jordan, it has nevertheless contributed to putting the RSS on an advanced footing in the field of solar energy and wind energy research in the Arab World.

The magazine paid tribute to RSS researchers and scientists, describing them as well-qualified and capable of combining scientific research and commercial awareness regarding the importance of investigations in the energy sector.

Jordan, the magazine said, has considerable potential to increase its utilisation of both solar and wind power for generating energy but the report noted that Jordan should develop its resources in the fields of alternative energy, such as solar and wind energy, to reduce its energy bill since the Kingdom imports all its fuel needs.

The magazine quoted Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib as saying, that technology, energy and food are major economic challenges to Jordan which is working hard to provide 10 to 12 per cent of its



energy requirements from solar and wind energy.

Prince Hassan says Aqaba deserves greater attention

AQABA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Thursday called for directing special attention to the Aqaba region and for placing it high on the order of national priorities.

Prince Hassan, who was speaking during a meeting at the Aqaba Region Authority (ARA), called for developing the investment climate in Aqaba, studying current problems and considering national aspirations with a view to providing a better investment climate in the tourist, scientific and commercial fields.

The Crown Prince proposed holding an open dialogue in Aqaba to be attended by representatives from all walks of life, including local sectors and concerned national institutions. The aim of the meeting would be to exchange objective views on the present problems and handicaps and means for solving them and

for finding alternatives designed to develop the investment and social climate, he continued.

Prince Hassan requested ARA officials to prepare for the meeting in coordination with all the concerned authorities and parties.

The meeting was attended by ARA President Bassam Qaqish, ARA Secretary General Dawsud Mahasneh and members of the board of directors.

Prince Hassan also visited the Ports Corporation where he met with its director general Eid Al Fayez and inspected the progress of work at the various sections. Prince Hassan also visited a new housing complex set up by the corporation. In the evening, Prince Hassan visited Haya Al Hussein Hospital and was briefed by officials on the progress of work and visited patients at the hospital.

Iraqi scholar warns of Iranian expansionist designs in the Gulf

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An Iraqi scholar has warned that Iran would stage a military invasion of the Gulf region should the present balance of power on the Iran-Iraq war front tilt in favour of the Persian state.

Dr. Keilan Mahmoud Ramez, professor of political science and international relations at Baghdad University, said that Iraq represented the only fortress in the face of the Iranian aggression and expansionist policies spearheaded to export "their sectarian trends of the Islamic revolution."

"Any defeat to Iraq would mean a sweeping occupation of the Arab Gulf states to impose a de facto acknowledgement of the revolution," said Dr. Ramez in a lecture he delivered on Arab national security as threatened by both the Iranian and Israeli invasions.

Dr. Ramez warned against what he termed as damage to the socio-economic and geo-political

structure of the Gulf states in the event of being subject to the Iranian revolution.

Dr. Ramez stressed that neither the United States nor the Soviet Union are keen to put an end to the seven-year old Iran-Iraq war although they each have the power to do so. The two superpowers, he said, have regional interests which do not conflict with prolonging the war.

For the United States, the Khomeini regime is viewed as a deterrent against the expansion of communist principles to the Gulf region and a tool to isolate Iraq from the Arab-Israeli conflict, he said, adding that the Soviet Union also has its own reasons to let the war continue.

American pledges to protect the Gulf region are of no consequence, Dr. Ramez said. The security and stability of the Gulf region is directly linked with the military power of Iraq, whose stability is organically linked with that of Jordan and Syria, he added.

Dr. Ramez's emphasis on the

need for Egypt to maintain its historic role in the Arab World in general and the Gulf region in particular triggered a debate among the audience which included a number of Jordanian and Arab intellectuals. The lecture was jointly organised by the Jordan Association of Jurists (JAJ) and the Arab Association for Political Sciences (AAPS).

Several members of the audience argued the feasibility of restoring Egypt's role in the Arab World after it had been politically ostracised from the Arab nation after signing the U.S.-brokered Camp David agreement with Israel. Dr. Ramez's argument was that that Egypt's leverage would continue since it is the most populous Arab country and it would not stand still in the event of any external aggression on any of the Arab countries.

Dr. Ramez painted a bright picture of the present situation in the Arab World, despite the prevailing strains in diplomatic relations between certain Arab states.

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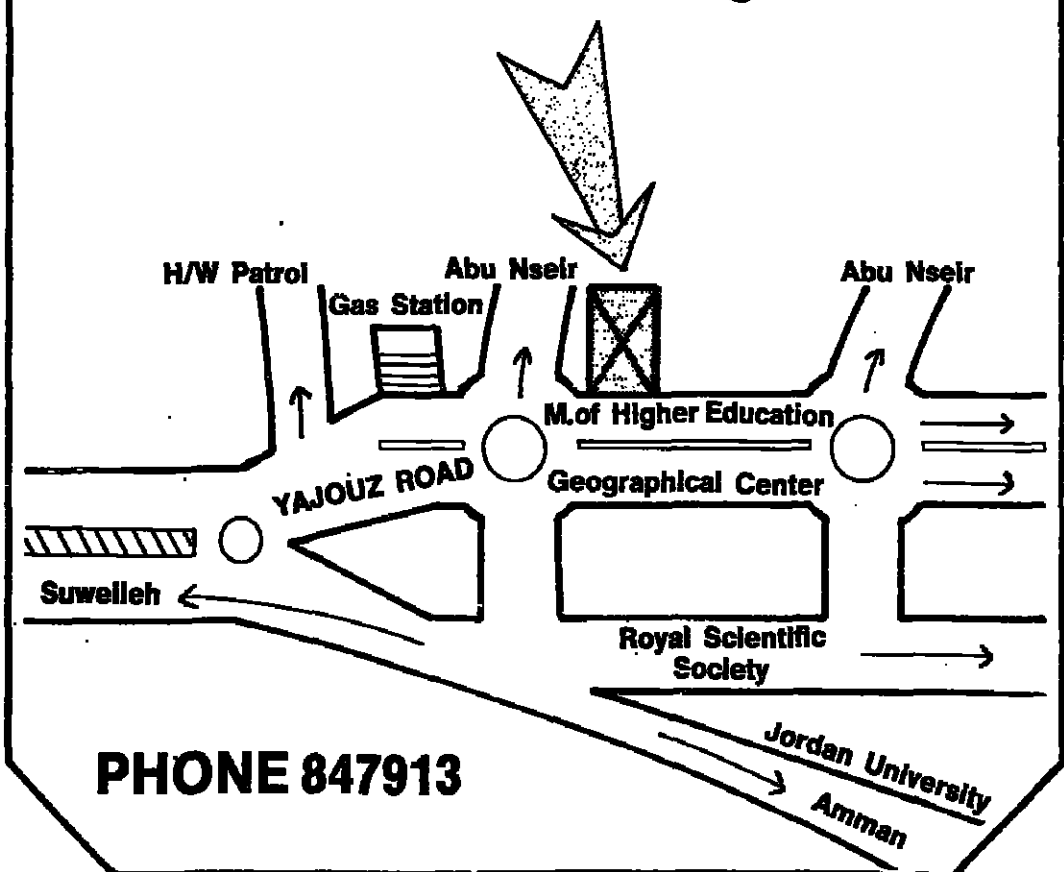
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: A lesson for the Lebanese

THE courageous operation carried out by the national Lebanese movement against Israeli targets on Thursday serves as a guide to all Lebanese factions. It represents a call for all the Lebanese people to mobilise their resources and powers and direct all their guns towards the Israeli invaders. The operation, in which one Israeli army officer was killed and two soldiers were wounded, was carried out at a time when all efforts are being made to provide security and stability in Lebanon and to achieve national reconciliation among the various warring Lebanese factions. It also shows the great loss the Lebanese have sustained as a result of the on-going fighting, which have been taking place for almost no reason except for defending cheap gains and at times just for the lust to fight. The blood, shed in Lebanon during so many years of fighting among the various Lebanese factions, could have achieved a victory against the nations enemies, not only on the Lebanese soil, but also in the whole Arab region. Hence it is hoped that efforts now being exerted to provide peace and security for the whole of Lebanon receive the support and blessing of all Lebanese parties and all Arab and world governments.

Al Dustour: Israeli terrorism

ISRAEL could not but admit that it had lost one army officer and that three of its soldiers were wounded during an operation carried out by the Lebanese national resistance movement in the south of Lebanon. This operation derives special importance because it took place at a time when the United Nations Commission on Human Rights has strongly expressed its condemnation of the Israeli aggressive policies in South Lebanon. This operation took place one day after the U.S. attempt to block the commission's decision. Israel has always described the legitimate resistance carried out by Arabs in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and in South Lebanon as "terrorist" actions, carried out by blood lust people, who have no cause or reason for which they should fight. But we ask, however, if there were any reasons to justify resistance more than the occupation of other people's land by force. Of course, Thursday's operation was not but legitimate act of resisting military occupation. However, it is regrettable the Western media should only repeat the Israeli allegations and describe the Arab people's struggle against Israeli Nazism as "terrorism." The Western media knows better how to differentiate between struggle for people's legitimate rights and terrorism which Israel is practising under false allegations.

Sawt Al Shaab: EC support

THE European Community foreign ministers resolution calling for the holding of an international peace conference, has gained momentum and acquired legal status when it was endorsed by the European Parliament, which comprises representatives for the 12 EC member states. The EC has been advocating its historical declaration, launched on Feb. 23, 1986 and has succeeded in foiling attempts aimed at diverting the course of its resolution to the wrong end. The EC has done so by rejecting a resolution presented by the French liberal group, in which the group wanted the Soviet Union to restore its diplomatic ties with the Jewish state before taking part in the proposed conference. By rejecting this proposal, the European parliament has expressed its independence from the American-Israeli camp which advocates the Zionist cause. The EC has realised that the U.S. policy on the Middle East is futile and is losing credibility. And it is now to the Arab countries to unite, to live up to the challenges facing them and to benefit from the international support, which the Brussels declaration offers.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: A lesson for us too

THE case of the Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard reflects once more the true nature of the Zionist movement in dealing with other nations and in making the Jewish people of the United States assume double loyalty, one to the U.S. and the other to Israel. Perhaps this loyalty to Zionism is far stronger than the one to the United States where Jews make a living and are supposed to behave as loyal citizens. The Pollard case has brought to the surface once again doubts about the reality about Zionism and its real intentions and the readiness of Jews in the United States to betray their country for the sake of serving Israel and the cause of the Zionist movement. This case has opened the eyes of many officials and leaders in the United States and also in Europe, something which the Arabs should benefit from in their drive to explain to the world the real intentions and real objectives of the Jews and the Zionist movement that directs them wherever they are in the world. The U.S. defence secretary has said that Pollard has cost the U.S. a great deal, and it will take the U.S. billions of dollars to rectify the damage that had been done. We believe that the U.S. has lost more credibility because of this dangerous case and hope the American people will take a good lesson for the future.

Al Dustour: False hopes

ISRAEL has ordered the formation of a committee to look into the Pollard case in a bid to comply with pressure being put on it, for the time being by the United States and in a bid to mislead the American public opinion into believing that the Israelis are cooperating with the U.S. leaders to clear up this mess. But earlier Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced that the Pollard case was closed and he would not order an investigation. We believe that the new development is being taken as an appeasement for the United States and the U.S. Congress, some of whose members were furious over Israel's role in the case. It is quite clear for everyone that this espionage case is too big to be concealed, although the Israelis will sooner or later find a way to escape all punishment as they did before in previous cases. Of course the Israeli leaders will do all they can to deceive the Americans and also to continue to gain the favour of Congress which has the power to continue the flow of assistance to the Jewish state. We hope that the U.S. people will take a lesson from this espionage case and reconsider their unlimited support for Israel.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Issues of development: Education

THOUGH the concepts of training and education are as old as time itself, it is only in recent times that the idea of mass education gained popular momentum and eventual acceptance by the state. Up to about the middle of the nineteenth century no state, whether in theory or in practice, took upon itself the responsibility of educating its citizens. Until that time education was the privilege of the elite, certain classes of the gentry, the aristocracy and the clergy. The mass of the inhabitants, male or female, were left to their own devices. With the advent of the industrial revolution in the West and the increasing need for trained engineers, accountants, managers...etc., and at the behest of reformers, the idea of mass education began to gain respectability. America, and Germany under Bismarck, were the first to institute mass education, an idea that soon spread to other countries in the West and eventually reaching the entirety of humanity by the middle of the twentieth century.

While education was the luxury and the privilege of the elite in previous times, today it has become an absolute necessity should the individual or the state wish to develop. And the idea of educating for education's sake, for the mere pleasure of it, has been relegated to a secondary position. Today, whether in Jordan, Germany or Mali, people get educated, and the state educates them for a specific reason. Education has become compulsory, it is no longer a matter of choice, and it is basically the responsibility of the state. Officials and intellectuals now speak of a "citizens industry," of "educating for

development" and of "social engineering" through the process of education.

Jordan, like all countries of the Third World comes to the realisation that education in modern times is not a luxury but a socio-economic necessity without which no real development can occur. And whereas only a few schools accommodating only several thousand students, mostly male, and not one college or university existed in the early fifties, today education in Jordan is truly universal, with about a third of the population attending schools and educational institutions of various levels and including the highest university degrees. The jump in quantum terms has been miraculous: miraculous when one considers, as one should, the terrific constraints and obstacles facing Jordan since 1948. Hardly had Jordan time to adjust itself to the first forced wave of Palestinian refugees in 1948 when the second forced wave occurred in 1967. Economic and human constraints notwithstanding, Jordan managed: in fact so well has it managed, that it has become a model for others and a major exporter of skilled talent not only to neighbouring Arab countries but to the world at large as well.

If we have succeeded quantitatively some quality was lost in the process; actually a most natural outcome of the race to catch-up with others. Surely we need not indulge ourselves in either bitter self-criticism nor in excessive self-congratulations. We need, however, to take stock of what we have done, and to carefully investigate the pitfalls along with the accomplishments. It is time to look into the

question of quality. Are we giving our children the right type of education that will enable them to cope with the changing times, with the future? We are on the threshold of the twenty-first century with all that implies. A child who is now anywhere between five and fifteen years of age, will live most of his life not in this but in the next century. Are we providing him with the correct set of social, intellectual, technical, cultural, and indeed most importantly, spiritual values, necessary for his welfare and the survival of his people?

Sometimes I think that in our preoccupation with our daily aches and pains, personal and national, and the challenges we face, we lose sight of the proper direction. Instead of acting we react, and instead of taking the initiative we wait for others to think for us. In our reactions, we tend, like the turtle, to withdraw within our own shell. Under constant attacks by merciless forces that have succeeded, at least in their own mind to distort our image, our culture and our history, we, or many amongst us, have come to view every non-native idea with suspicion. Is it right to shun ideas, and to teach our youth to idea them simply because they are "imported"? A man, or a nation, is what it knows and while the knowledge of yesterday should be cherished, loved and appreciated, it should not act as a push factor to the knowledge of today. The two can, and must, if we wish to survive, coexist. Stuffing the mind with memorised data and figures is not education, it is merely the passage, not the proper appreciation or use of knowledge. Education makes a people easy to lead, easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

Turkish partners denounce its latest human rights move

By Milan Ruzicka
The Associated Press

STRASBOURG, France — Turkey's decision to let its citizens take human rights complaints to the European Commission of Human Rights has come under criticism because of stipulations attached by Ankara.

In an apparent change of heart, Turkey said in January that it would allow Turks to appeal to the human rights panel, an arm of the Strasbourg-based 21-nation Council of Europe.

But the government said it still would not recognise the council's court of human rights, which issues rulings in the second stage of the grievance redress process.

"Several European diplomats, politicians and human rights experts" have denounced the move as a cosmetic gesture.

They say the Turkish declaration to the Council of Europe on Jan. 28 was so broad that it was meaningless.

Turkish Foreign Minister Yigit Halefoglu said Turkey intends to apply for membership in the European Community later this year and that the declaration preceded that step.

"We belong to Europe," he

told Council of Europe parliamentarians. "We are willing to assume fully our role as such not only within the council but also in other European fora. This is the fundamental significance of the declaration."

Turkey is one of the 21 nations of the Council of Europe. Created in 1949, it is the oldest group aimed at forging a European union.

Other council nations are Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, France, West Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Great Britain.

Council of Europe citizens can sue their governments under the council's human rights charter. Their complaints first go to the council's commission of human rights for an initial finding, then to its court of human rights.

The court's judgments are not legally binding. But they carry significant political weight and are followed by the council's other member nations.

Until its January announcement, Turkey never recognised the authority of either the Human Rights Commission or the court.

As a result, neither institution heard complaints from Turkish nationals.

Halefoglu said Turkey will now recognise the authority of the rights commission to issue initial findings on complaints from Turks.

Pleading "special circumstances," however, he listed half a dozen areas in which the rights commission would have no authority to issue an initial finding. Among these are acts of the Turkish military in Cyprus.

Halefoglu said the right to private and family life; freedom of thought, conscience and religion; freedom of expression; and the freedom to form trade unions — all contained in the human rights charter — must be understood "in conformity with... the Turkish constitution."

In addition, Turkey will continue not to recognise the authority of the human rights court to issue final rulings. Therefore, complaints by Turks will not be heard by the court.

Rosalyn Higgins, a member of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, said if the Turkish reservations were accepted, they would set "an appalling precedent" for other

European countries.

In a telephone interview, the professor of international law at the London School of Economics said Ankara's view of how the human rights charter ought to be applied to Turkey was "absolutely inconsistent with the whole body of European human rights law."

"What they are telling us is that we should adjust our human rights to Turkish standards," said a Scandinavian diplomat, who asked not to be named. "The implications for the European human rights system are enormous."

Turkey came under military rule after a 1980 coup. It returned to civilian rule three years after, but five provinces remain under martial law and Turkey's human rights record continues to cause concern in Europe.

Sources said many West European countries are considering asking the human rights court to declare the Turkish stipulations illegal.

A request for such a court ruling must be made by two-thirds of the Council of Europe's 21 foreign ministers, which may be difficult, as Turkey now holds

the council's rotating presidency. Instead, the council nations will likely opt for diplomatic pressure on Ankara to drop its stipulations to its citizens right to sue.

Bjorn Elmquist, a liberal politician from Denmark who chairs

the legal affairs panel of the council's parliamentary assembly, said he felt deceived by Halefoglu's declaration.

He said his committee may ask the Human Rights Court to rule on the legality of Turkey's stipulations.

LETTERS

The Voice of America

To the Editor:

THIS is in response to Ms. Karen Asfour's letter which appeared in the Jordan Times (Feb. 25).

I welcome an opportunity to discuss the planned U.S. station in Israel which would relay the broadcasts of the Voice of America (VOA) as well as those of the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL).

It should be noted at the outset that the VOA and RFE/RL operate a total of sixteen relay stations around the world. All of our broadcasts come from a single central point for each broadcasting institution: from Washington for VOA; from Munich for RFE/RL. There are no local programme origins from any of our relay stations. Therefore, everything you hear on the VOA, for example, regardless of what language it may be in, comes out from our Washington studios and reflects the VOA's broadcasting guidelines.

Those guidelines are laid down in the VOA Charter, a policy statement passed by both Houses of Congress and signed by President Ford in 1976. The charter is brief but cogent, so I will quote it below:

"The long-range interests of the United States are served by communicating directly with the people of the world by radio. To be effective, the Voice of America (the broadcasting service of the United States Information Agency) must win the attention and respect of listeners. These principles will therefore govern Voice of America (VOA) broadcasts:

"(1) VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news. VOA news will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive.

"(2) VOA will represent America, not any single segment of American society, and will therefore present a balanced and comprehensive projection of significant American thoughts and institutions.

"(3) VOA will present the policies of the United States clearly and effectively, and will also present responsible discussion and opinion on these policies."

The charter is followed seriously by the Voice in all of its broadcasts. RFE/RL programmes adhere to strict guidelines, as well. In great part, it helps explain why we have so successfully been able to broadcast from so many places in the world while maintaining excellent relations with our host governments. I would note that those host governments represent a wide range of policies and views and include such diverse nations as Morocco, Greece, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, Botswana and many others. I am quite sure that we will maintain the integrity of our programmes regardless of relay location.

Finally, you may be interested in knowing that the Jerusalem Post on February 25, carried a letter which claims that VOA broadcasts have a strong pro-Arab bias. I am tempted to say that we may be doing things right if we are generating criticism from opposite camps.

Morton S. Smith
Deputy Director/Modernisation
USIS
Amman.

Struggle in Chinese leadership continues

By Stephen Nisbet
Reuters

PEKING — Conflicting signals in the Chinese news media show that political struggles between reformers and hardliners in the leadership are continuing, diplomats have said.

"It's a very fluid situation," said one diplomat.

Another said attacks on "bourgeois liberalism," the official label for Western political influences, had appeared in the official press less frequently this month than earlier in the year.

Some official statements had returned to stressing relaxation rather than rectitude, emphasising the need for economic reforms, allowing some freedom of expression and avoiding harsh treatment of those whose conduct was judged unacceptable, the diplomats said.

Chinese leaders were seeking to reassure foreign governments and businessmen that the "open door" policy, under which Peking welcomed foreign investment to help economic development,

would continue. However, one diplomat said: "The reformers are over-protecting their case. They would not have to say so much if they were not under threat."

A Chinese new year message by Premier Zhao Ziyang stressed the need to keep the fight against "bourgeois liberalism" within Communist Party ranks.

But it has clearly gone beyond these limits and extends into education and the People's Liberation Army, with both soldiers and students being required to spend more time on political study.

The governor of central Henan province and the Henan military commander were quoted on provincial radio as discussing the participation of PLA units in the comprehensive handling of social order problems, "an unusual reference to giving soldiers a political role outside the barracks."

The army and universities were important in different ways in the launching of the campaign against Western influences which led in January to the dismissal of Com-



Zhao Ziyang

munist Party chief Hu Yaobang. Diplomats said army chiefs' lack of confidence in Hu had left him vulnerable to attack by conservatives worried about December's large-scale student demonstrations.

The army chiefs saw the students' demands for greater democracy as a consequence of slack political direction from the top.

Diplomats quoted Chinese officials as saying that Hu, who was in good health but doing no official work, had been treated mod-

erately.

One diplomat said the authorities were being much more lenient with transgressors than during the cultural revolution in the late 1960s, and had relied on the campaign in the official media to produce a "self-induced chill" among intellectuals.

Fang Lizhi, an academic sacked from the Communist Party on charges of having recommended wholesale westernisation, is still allowed to perform academic duties, according to the new president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Zhou Guangzhao.

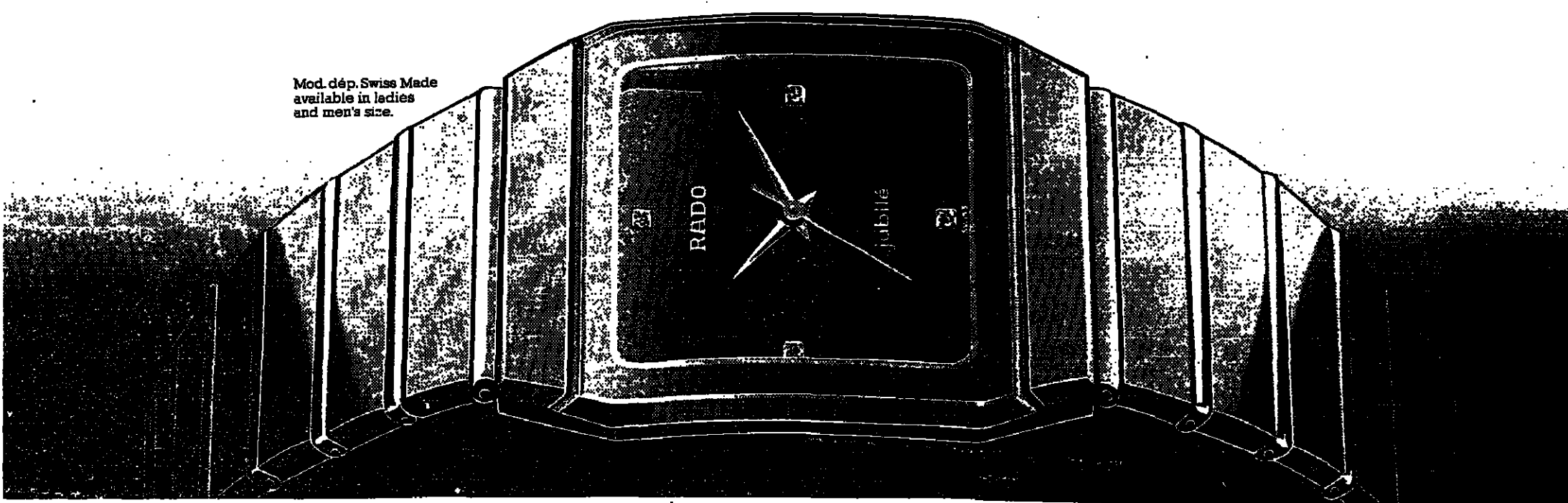
Paramount leader Deng Xiaoping pledged last weekend that political and economic reforms would go ahead, but in tandem with a long-term campaign against western ideas.

Diplomats said the economic picture was complicated by the fact that a belt-tightening exercise had begun before Hu's dismissal

for pragmatic rather than ideological reasons, because of excessive wage growth in cities and the need to contain credit expansion.

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European union — steady movement toward the goal

The idea of a united states of Europe grew out of the ashes of World War II. Its embryo was an entity called the European coal and steel community, forerunner to today's European Common Market. The concept has come a long way since then, perhaps farther than many Europeans had thought. It still has a long way to go, but the ultimate goal of European union remains real.

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Western Europe is slowly inching toward its goal of creating a united states of Europe — an economic, political and social integration to solidify democracy on a continent with a history of war and tyranny. The task is so enormous, given the traditional differences in language, economic strength, nationalist feelings and political cohesion among the West European nations, that the dream of a fully united Europe remains far from fulfilled.

Yet the struggle goes on, with signs of progress that include increasing support from ordinary citizens. Sprinkled across the region is a mixture of institutions that sprang up after World War II in a burst of enthusiasm for building a community of nations. The late French economist and statesman Jean Monnet, a prime advocate of European unity, foresaw the union as a "second America."

One of the oldest of these institutions is the Council of Europe, set up in 1949 as a forum for discussion of European affairs by government ministers and parliamentarians from 21 countries. Another is the Western European Union, which binds seven countries in a defence treaty and allows them to consult on security and political issues outside the broader North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

But, the centre of Europe's effort to integrate is the European Economic Community, or Common Market, the only one of the institutions with truly supranational powers.

The 12 EEC countries are working together to fashion not only a common market for their products and a common approach

to the environment, unemployment and other related problems, but also a common view of the world outside their frontiers.

The EEC marks its 30th birthday March 25, still far from fulfilling its founders' pledge to "eliminate the barriers which divide Europe" but determined to widen its reach into everyday life and to make its work more useful to ordinary citizens.

Disputes and deadlocks in the major pan-European organisations often get the most public attention, in and out of Europe. But the years of cooperative effort have yielded some practical accomplishments:

— Elimination of custom duties for goods that cross European borders.

— Linking of eight nations' currency values, within the European monetary system, to help create stable trade flows between the European member countries and to develop greater cooperation in economic policy.

— Development of a common European currency, known as the European Currency Unit (ECU). Today it is used largely as an accounting device, but it is rapidly gaining popularity as a unit of equivalence in consumer transactions.

— Creation of a common European passport. Although it took 10 years of seemingly needless haggling, the first passports, bearing the words "European Community" and the name of the holder's country, came into use in 1985 as a tangible symbol of European identity.

— Joint development of many major weapons systems, including the Tornado jet fighter aircraft built by defence contractors in Britain, Italy and West Germany.

— Since 1979, members of the European parliament have been

directly elected by citizens of the EEC nations. Before that they were appointed by the member governments. The 518-member parliament's powers are limited to such things as helping write the EEC's annual budget, but it has increased its influence, and its leaders say it eventually could be the single seat of European legislative power.

The West Europeans also are working together in other ways. Companies are banding together to compete with the Americans and Japanese in civilian aircraft and high-technology fields. Scientists, through the 11-nation European Space Agency, are establishing a European presence in outer space exploration.

Beyond all the official projects and formal institutions, however, is a feeling among many individuals that Europe is more than a geographic idea.

A gradual, hardly visible, personal transformation seems under way, even in countries, notably Britain and others on the northern periphery of Europe, where people traditionally looked with scepticism beyond their national frontiers.

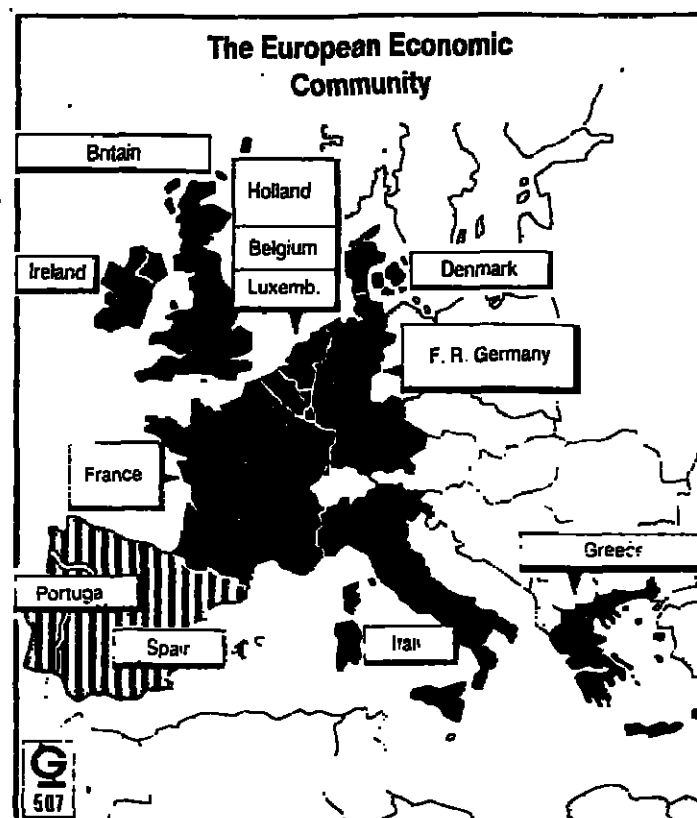
This change of attitude was evident in a speech in January by the president of the European Parliament, Sir Henry Plumb, the first British subject elected to head the body.

"I was born an Englishman," he said. "I shall die a European."

The seemingly greater interest in European unity does not mean an end to cultural diversity. "Sometimes people talk about the uniformisation of Europe as if there will be one European language," said Jimmy Jamer, director of student programmes at the College of Europe. "This will never happen and I don't think it should."

Yet the "Europeanisation" of Europe is showing itself in many ways.

— A Belgian radio station devotes one hour a week to explaining key proposals and decisions by the EEC. On Feb. 2, the station added a programme on



the legal rights of citizens under laws established by the EEC.

— Last year, for the first time, the EEC lent its name to a professional tennis tournament, the European Community Championships, to promote the European concept in sports. Prize money was awarded in European currency units.

— Super Channel, a British-owned cable television service, on Feb. 2 began what it called the first pan-European news programme, presented in English and transmitted to 6.8 million homes in 14 countries.

— Nine schools in six countries are providing a "European" education for 16,000 children of EEC employees. A separate programme, yet to be approved by the EEC governments, would allow more than 40,000 students to spend a year studying in a European country other than their own.

— Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former president of France, last fall declared there should be a president of all of Western Europe and indicated he was ready to serve. "I don't understand why there is not a European Washington and why no European leader invests his career in the union of Europe," he told a French radio audience.

A recent pan-European poll said 56 per cent of the respondents thought of themselves as citizens, not just residents, of Europe, compared with 50 per cent in a similar survey in 1983. Eighty per cent said they supported the idea of integrating Western Europe, up from 63 per cent in 1973.

The same poll, however, said most people don't fully support one of the fundamental tenets of the integration effort: The right of EEC citizens to live and work permanently in any member country. Only 40 per cent said

they would feel regret if the EEC were dismantled.

Worried that the public was losing interest in the EEC, the government leaders in June 1984 launched what they called a "citizen's Europe" campaign.

The result has been such symbolic gestures as the adoption of a European anthem (Beethoven's "Ode to Joy"), a European flag (12 gold stars on a blue background) and common border signs patterned on the flag.

Although Western Europe has enjoyed considerable success in integrating its national trade, agricultural and industrial policies over the past three decades, it remains divided on the stickier issues of defence, regional security and foreign policy.

A new treaty on European political cooperation, written in 1985 is to take effect this spring. It obligates the 12 EEC nations to consult on foreign policy questions and, if possible, to adopt a common stance.

That promises to be difficult, given the EEC's lineup. The Socialist government of Greece, for example, is more reluctant than most of the other European nations to risk offending the Soviet Union on sensitive political matters.

Ireland is officially neutral and refuses to take part in EEC debates on military matters. It will discuss only the political aspects of security.

At the same time that the nations of Western Europe are focusing more directly on their own integration, they appear interested also in closer ties to Communist Eastern Europe.

The EEC, for example, last year stepped up its efforts to cooperate in trade matters with Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and Bulgaria.

President Francois Mitterrand of France said in a recent speech that European economic and political integration must go beyond the West.

"Europe is not Europe as long as there is no understanding between its parts," he said.



A New Face — Remington Steele — Thursday 9:10

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — March 14, 1987

8:30 Music Box

9:30 Dad's Army

10:20 Feature Film
Charly's Web

Sun. — March 15, 1987

8:30 Who's The Boss

9:10 Doc. — The Day The Universe Changed
Making waves

The discovery of the electric battery in 1800 sparked an astonishing separation between the scientific and public views of science. As the scientists investigated the new phenomenon, their commonsense, Newtonian world began to fall apart. The public saw only the miracles of the new electrical technology. The programme takes us to Switzerland, England, Austria and America, where we see how pioneers from Faraday to Einstein slowly evolved a new science. We are left to ponder Heisenberg's fearful "Principle of Uncertainty: at the fundamental level nothing can be seen as it really is; the true nature of the universe must forever elude us."

10:20 Captain and the Kings

Thur. — March 19, 1987

8:30 Paul Daniels Magic Show

9:10 Remington Steele

10:20 Feature Film
Green Ice

In South America, Joe meets Grace who came over to search for her sister who was lost there. She becomes aware of the facts pertaining to her sister's murder. So she joins the rebels together with Joe. Both of them help the rebels.

Fri. — March 20, 1987

8:30 Throb

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 The Universal Causes

A series of chilling plays about domestic murder shot in film noir style and set in mainly claustrophobic settings. It could happen in the kitchen over lunch, during dinner at an exclusive gentleman's club, even at the vicarage. Death can strike horribly against the seemingly ordinary backdrop of humdrum ordinary life. None of the psychodramas feature an investigative policeman or private detective.

Wed. — March 18, 1987

8:30 Me and My Girl

Richard O'Sullivan stars in this

Turkish artists urge resistance against movie censorship

By Emel Anil
The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Leading figures in the Turkish film industry claim strict government censorship is stifling the artistic growth of cinema in Turkey.

"If the censorship law does not change, the only solution may be unified protest," said award-winning veteran director Akif Yilmaz.

"We must organise against censorship," added Turkey's top film actress, Mujde Ar. "We may refuse to make any movies, or we may refuse to send them to the censorship board."

Ms. Ar's latest movie, "A Woman to be Hanged," was rejected by the censorship board, a panel comprising half a dozen mid-level officials and one movie industry representative.

Board decisions can be appealed in court, an action taken by the film's producer. The courts almost always overrule the censorship board, but a lengthy court case and consequent delayed release can finally ruin producers.

Director Serif Goren's "Alley of Hope" also awaits a court decision. Goren directed "Yol" (The Road), which won the Cannes film festival's Golden Palm award in 1982.

Several other new movies cleared the censorship board only after significant cuts and changes.

The major complaint is that censorship guidelines are extremely vague, generalised and subjective. The censorship code forbids anything that runs against traditions or public morality, or denigrates friendly countries, Turkey's honour or any respectable profession.

Filmmakers thought the situation had improved last year when the government passed a revised censorship decree that appeared to ease its vigilance.

The new decree authorised the culture ministry, instead of the interior ministry, to set up a supervision committee, or censorship board. In addition, film scripts no longer required prior approval.

"Police censorship was over. A more civilian control was established," said Onat Kutlar, movie critic and manager of Istanbul's annual film festival.

But hopes for more freedom evaporated when some of the top productions of the 1986-87 season were rejected by the board.

Script writers and directors claim the better movies — which generally deal with controversial subjects, espouse new views and

knock down taboos — run into the most trouble.

For example, "A Woman to be Hanged" is the story of a young female servant who is brought up in a decadent, rich household and eventually ends up sexually serving the men of the family.

"It is the most moral of stories," said script writer Pinar Kur, who is also a well-known novelist. "The movie criticises sexual abuse of women, repression and use of women as a piece of property."

Basar Sabuncu, the director of the movie, said authorities never even explained exactly what they found objectionable in the film.

"They only implied that they objected to words in the film such as tramp, whore, or lice-infested peasant, as if these are not in everyday use in the language," he told the Associated Press.

"Once asked a board member what he would consider pornographic, and he answered 'anything that turns me on,'" Kutlar said.

Ironically, low-budget movies filled with explicit sexual scenes are shown in movie houses throughout Turkey.

Industry sources said producers of those movies make two copies — a "clean" one for the censorship board and another for actual screening with pornographic scenes added.

Sometimes authorities raid movie houses and stop the show. But Kutlar said the filmmakers often escape trouble because officials, aware that they cannot police all movie houses, ignore the problem.

Filmmakers who want to enter their works in foreign festivals also must face the censorship board. To leave the country legally, a movie must get the panel's approval.

"Yol," which was smuggled out of Turkey, was banned from screening in the country.

Within the film industry, producers who pay for the films have a different stance on the issue than actors and directors. Most producers urge compromise, in the form of cuts and changes and even self-censorship.

The artists, such as Ms. Ar, call for resistance to any form of censorship.

"There is no such thing as little or too much censorship," she said. "All censorship is meaningless, pitiful and primitive."

The artists believe that no film should be cut in any manner based on the committee's recommendation. Instead, they say, all disputes should go to court immediately.

Britain's tea ladies are an endangered species

By Cotten Timberlake
The Associated Press

LONDON — The age of technology appears to be overtaking British tea ladies, who for centuries have served businessmen their tea in fine china cups with a smile, maybe some gossip and when needed, a bit of motherly advice.

In many businesses these days, shiny tea dispensers have replaced the women who traditionally made a trolley run twice a day to serve executives in their offices.

It's a trend regretted by many. "There is something very British about tea ladies," said Ma Chapman, an independent television producer.

Chapman recently made a documentary about tea, and said he discovered that more people were going to tea-dispensing machines, making the tea ladies an "endangered species."

"For some of the young people the machines are very, very good. I can understand that," said Noeren Horsburgh, a tea lady at the Stoy Hayward Accounting firm. "They say they use the machines a lot, but partners don't."

Are tea ladies an endangered species?

"It seems like it now," said Mrs. Horsburgh, who has served tea for 20 years.

There are 180,000 machines dispensing tea in offices, factories and other locations throughout Britain, said Roboserve Ltd., a major vending machine maker. That number will increase by another 10 per cent in each of the next five years, the London-based company predicted.

The number of British machine manufacturers, meanwhile, has grown to six, reflecting the size of the market in a country that leads the Anglo-Saxon tea-drinking world with an annual average of 1,355 cups per person.

"Our view is that the death knell has long tolled for the tea ladies," said Edward Wall, sales and marketing director for Roboserve.

If Wall is right, a practice that began in the 17th century would cease. According to the Tea Council, a trade group, Britain's first tea lady was a Mrs. Harris, the wife of the male housekeeper of the East India Trading Company house, who began serving tea to company directors during meetings in 1666. The council said it has no record of Mrs. Harris' first name.

In the 1890s, the council said, the number of tea ladies grew as companies hired women to serve executives their tea, a task previously handled by secretaries.

The transition from tea ladies to dispensers can cause complica-

tions, as the Stoy Hayward firm has learned. Three years ago, it let five tea ladies go when it moved to a new building and introduced machines. It kept one tea lady to serve the top partners and important meetings.

"The tea ladies were getting old and past retirement," said Brian Udell, a director. "It was an amicable arrangement. They went off happily."

But things haven't been the same since.

Stoy Hayward had to install a new make of machines in December because the previous ones weren't reliable, and the new machines already have had water-pressure problems.

The firm also had to charge 5 pence (7.5 cents) a cup — the old tea was free — to prevent wastage. Then there is the spillage problem, although the firm does supply trays.

"People are inclined to take bulk orders," Udell explained.

Last, but not least, are the gripes from the 800 employees. "People like being served," Udell said. "They don't like getting up and getting it for themselves."

In addition, "some people don't like the quality. It doesn't please everybody," he said. "Most people don't like drinking out of plastic cups (although) most of us have gotten used to

that."

The company is installing a sixth machine, which dispenses beverages into your own cup.

The machines, which Stoy Hayward rents, are slightly cheaper than employing tea ladies, whose salaries are estimated at 3,000 pounds (\$4,500) to 6,000 pounds (\$9,000) a year.

Convenience, not cost, was the primary consideration, Udell said.

"The main benefit is that we could produce drinks all day or night," Udell said. "We do have staff working late hours."

The machines also offer a much wider choice, dispensing tea, coffee, soft drinks, soup and cold water.

Kate Duffield, a filer at the firm, says she appreciates the benefits. But Sheila Brewin, a secretary, prefers the tea lady — and is lucky enough to still have one, because she works for a top partner.

"I like the personal touch," Mrs. Brewin said. "I also like a little gossip with her. A tea machine can't talk to you."

Mrs. Brewin swears the tea lady keeps much about important business conversations she overhears.

"It's only the little tattle she gossips about, like who's having an affair with whom, who's having a baby..." Mrs. Brewin said.

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Death mars Portugal rally for second consecutive year

MONDIM DE BASTO, Portugal (AP) — Portuguese driver Joaquim Guedes' Toyota Corolla Coupe GT skidded out of control Friday into a crowd of spectators in the third leg of the 1987 Portuguese Auto Rally, killing one person and injuring at least nine others, hospital officials said.

Race officials said Guedes' Toyota veered off the course at high speed during the Marao Rm, the 21st special stage of the four-day event and the 5th of the third leg, begun earlier Friday.

Officials halted the race while ambulances took the injured to hospitals, and the event resumed less than an hour later.

A spokesman for the Mondim De Basto Municipal Hospital identified the dead man as Manuel Carvalho Da Silva Peixoto, 18.

The spokesman, quoted by Portuguese radio, said the nine injured included a five-year-old boy with serious head injuries. It was the second fatal accident

in the history of the Portuguese Rally. Last year, another Portuguese driver, Joaquim Santos, went into roadside crowds killing two people and injuring 30 others.

Top international drivers refused to finish last year's rally after Santos' Ford RS 200 slammed into the crowd on the first day of the event, demanding tighter safety measures for the race.

Portuguese organisers this year took a series of steps aimed at reducing the risk of accidents. They included a publicity campaign urging spectators to stay "away from the danger," plastic

tape barriers at perilous curves, loudspeaker warning systems and elimination of the Sintra Mountain stages where last year's accident took place.

Guedes was running in 21st place when the accident occurred Friday, but the event was dominated by the Lancia team entries.

Finn Markku Alen remained in the lead after taking the first two legs on Wednesday and Thursday, with teammates Juha Kankkunen, also of Finland, and Massimo Biasion of Italy close behind.

After the Marao stage was completed, Alen had an 18-second lead over his main rival, Jean Ragnotti of France driving a Renault 11 Turbo, with Swede Kenneth Eriksson's VW Golf GTI in third and Biasion in fourth place.

The third stage was due to end Friday evening at the central Portuguese city of Viseu.

European league preview

Schumacher row looms over Cologne

LONDON (R) — West German league leader Bayern Munich visits Cologne today in what is expected to be an emotional match thanks to a player who will not even be in the stadium.

It is Cologne's first home game since goalkeeper Harald "Toni" Schumacher fell into disfavor after publishing his controversial autobiography.

Fans are expected to demonstrate against the decision to sell the highly popular Schumacher at the end of the season.

The team and new goalkeeper, 19-year-old Bodo Illner, are meanwhile anxious to show they can hold their own without the star and Bayern will have its work cut out to escape with both points.

Second-placed Hamburg SV, a point behind the Munich club, has an altogether easier-looking fixture at home to goal-shy Bochum, who has asked 37-year-old former World Cup striker Klaus Fischer to come out of retirement.

In Spain, the news that top

striker Hugo Sanchez wants to leave is the latest blow for Real Madrid just up its challenge for triple honours moves into top gear.

With Jorge Valdano suffering from hepatitis and Emilio Butragueno still out with his ankle injury, Real faces a trip to Athletic Bilbao who beat it 4-2 in Madrid in November but who has slumped since.

Barcelona, now a point behind Real at the top, goes into today's home encounter with Real Betis without a goal in four games and with three successive defeats in league and UEFA Cup matches.

In Italy, record receipts are expected at the San Paolo Stadium when Napoli takes on second-placed Roma on Sunday.

Napoli, five points ahead and chasing its first league title, had some fears over Diego Maradona Wednesday when he limped out of a training session, although the player himself is optimistic.

Roma will be without Polish midfielder Zbigniew Boniek, sus-

pected for four matches after being sent off last Sunday.

In France, Racing Club Paris and Paris Saint-Germain meet in a clash of local rivals. But neither has any realistic hope of the title which is now a two-way battle between Bordeaux and Marseille, six points clear at the top.

The leaders meet struggling clubs. Bordeaux is at home to Sochaux and Marseille plays away to Toulon.

In Portugal, third-placed Guimaraes faces its moment of truth when it meets leader Benfica at home.

A defeat would leave the season's surprise side six points adrift of Benfica and virtually out of the title race.

Unhappily in The Netherlands most attention is likely to be off the pitch. Den Haag is due back in action on Sunday after the infamous game with Ajax two weeks ago.

Visitor Utrecht wants the match called off and extra police are on stand-by if its appeal fails.

Fans not ready, says British minister

LONDON (AP) — Britain's sports minister said that the behaviour of English soccer fans in other countries was still too poor to allow their clubs to return to European competition.

Minister Dick Tracey said he was disappointed but not surprised by this week's decision to keep English clubs out of Europe for at least one more year.

"English football supporters have all first got to prove their behaviour is impeccable — and they have yet to prove it," Tracey said in an interview Thursday with Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency.

"English supporters are ambassadors of this country when they go abroad," he said. "I feel very sorry for the majority of clubs, when there is a small minority of fans messing it up for everyone else."

On Tuesday, UEFA, the gov-

erning body of European soccer,

decided to maintain the English club ban for at least another year. The ban was imposed almost two years ago, after 39 people died in rioting between English and Italian fans at the European Champions cup final in Brussels. Most of the victims were Italians.

Tracey said two violent incidents earlier this season involving English fans — aboard a European-bound ferry last fall and in Spain last month — were major factors behind the UEFA decision.

He also reiterated that the government would not bow to pressure from UEFA and other groups to seize passports of British fans involved in soccer violence.

He also said that the British government has taken "practical steps" to curb soccer violence at home.

UEFA chief defends decision

In Berne, Switzerland, Jacques Georges, president of the European Football Union (UEFA), defended a decision to prolong the ban on English soccer clubs from UEFA competitions and urged the British government to take forceful action against hooligans.

"I would be the happiest person if English clubs could play

next season," Georges told a news conference.

"Why are they not playing? Because as long as football is no longer what it used to be — family entertainment with the spectators enjoying it in perfect safety — there will be no change."

"I was at Heysel surrounded by dead and dying. I will do everything in my power to see it does not happen again."

Georges said he believed English sporting authorities were doing all they could to ensure a quick return to European competitions but that government involvement was needed.

"I feel strongly it is now up to the British government to do more. We keep hearing about the impossibility of withdrawing passports, citizenship rights, etc., about European Community laws. But it is up to them to keep out this imported violence."

He noted that arrests stemming from violence at domestic soccer matches in England had dropped by 50 per cent last season after 4,000 were logged during the 1984-1985 season.

"If this reduction continues there is a good chance. But I repeat, the problem of these hooligans, some of them with convictions, coming to Europe must be resolved by the British government," Georges said.

Italy leads Sweden in Davis Cup tie

PRATO, Italy (R) — Paolo Cane beat Michael Pernfors in four sets to give Italy a surprise lead over Sweden after the opening match of their Davis Cup World Group first round tennis tie Friday.

Cane, the only Italian player currently ranked in the world's top 50, outscored and outpaced Pernfors 1-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 to put Italy 1-0 ahead of the 1984 and 1985 champions.

Pernfors, beaten French Open finalist last year and now ranked 14th in the world, started powerfully, breaking Cane in the very first game.

Cane, the Italian number one but 44th in the world, had problems with his serve and his only game in the first set was a break back in the second.

Pakistan's 116 is lowest score ever against India

BANGALORE, India (AP) — A career-best seven for 27 by India's young left arm spinner Maninder Singh saw Pakistan crumble for 116 on the opening day of the fifth cricket test here.

Pakistan's lowest ever score against India brought to life a series that looked doomed after four uninspiring draws between the traditional rivals.

Pakistan's sensational batting collapse on the treacherous wicket at Chinnaswamy Stadium came after Imran Khan won the toss for the fourth time in the series, this time against Sunil Gavaskar. The master batsman was asked to toss by Indian captain Kapil Dev to mark his last test match.

Just four batsmen reached double figures in Pakistan's innings, two of them being tailenders Iqbal Qasim and Tauseef Ahmed, who saw their team past the 100-mark after it was reduced to 74 for eight.

Maninder Singh cut through Pakistan's top order by lunch claiming five wickets for ten runs in 19 deliveries after skipper Dev provided the initial breakthrough by getting rid of openers Rameez Raja and Rizwan Uz Zaman.

Maninder returned after lunch to dismiss Iqbal Qasim and Salim Jafar to surpass his previous best test figures of seven for 51 against Sri Lanka at Nagpur earlier in the season.

Friday's score by Pakistan was lower than the 150 it made against India at Delhi during the inaugural cricket series between the two countries in 1952-53.

India struggled to 68 for 2 by stumps on a wicket that took turn which indicated that Imran Khan would miss leg spinner Abdul Qadir as the match progressed.

Imran Khan opted for a third seamer Salim Jaffer instead of Qadir, who had been smothered around by Indian batsmen in previous contests.

Off spinner Tauseef-Ahmed broke India's 39-run opening stand with his first delivery by clean bowling Krishnamachari Srikkanth after the dashing strokeplayer struck four boundaries in 21 off 29 deliveries.

Tauseef had his second success at the score of 56, when Gavaskar was bowled swinging wildly at a short ball after a 91 minute vigil at the crease for 21 runs.

The Pakistanis had two appeals for catches close to the wicket against Mohinder Amarnath rejected by umpire Ram Babu Gupta, which needed skipper Imran Khan's intervention to cool down tempers on the field.

Amarnath survived the day making 12 in 69 minutes. Keeping him company at close was Dilip Vengsarkar on nine.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Navratilova, Temesvari out of doubles

MARCO ISLAND, Florida (R) — Top seeds Martina Navratilova and Andrea Temesvari were sent tumbling out of the \$400,000 Women's Team Tennis Championship doubles tournament in a surprise first round defeat. The pair lost to West German Bettina Bunge and American Lori McNeil — who have never played together before — 1-6, 6-0, 6-3 in one of the opening matches of the eight-team event. Navratilova and her Hungarian partner now go into a consolation round while Bunge and McNeil tackle Australian Liz Smylie and Catherine Tanvier of France, the third seeds, in the semifinals.

Czech athlete fails to return

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A government official said that a Czech athlete who didn't return to Prague with his teammates from a weekend track meet missed his plane. But Robert Johnson, the officer in charge of the Indiana office of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service, said he had no information on the whereabouts of triple jumper Jan Cado. Cado, who competed in the first World Indoor Track Championship at the Hooter Dome, failed to return home, the Czech Communist Party daily Rude Pravo reported from Prague. In Washington, a government source, speaking on condition that he not be identified, said the State Department was familiar with the case and could confirm that Cado missed the plane Sunday, but so far it did not appear that Cado had requested asylum.

Besiktas-Kiev game switched due to snow

ISTANBUL (R) — Saturday's European Cup quarter final soccer tie between Besiktas of Istanbul and Dynamo Kiev has been switched to Izmir because of snow blanketing Istanbul, a Besiktas spokesman said. He told Reuters the Soviet team would fly direct to the Aegean coastal port town and Besiktas would take a bus. Istanbul Airport was closed because of renewed heavy snowfalls. The tie was originally due to be played at Istanbul's Ali Sami Yen Stadium on March 4 but was postponed three times because of the snow. The second leg is due to be played in Kiev next Wednesday.

Argentina hopeful Maradona can play

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Carlos Bilardo, Argentina's World Cup-winning coach, said he was still hopeful Diego Maradona would play in the friendly soccer match against Italy's Roma in Rome on March 19. He said Maradona's club Napoli, chasing its first ever league title, could release Maradona if it wins its First Division home match against Roma on Sunday and consolidate its lead in the Italian First Division.

Belgium Renard retains European title

COSENZA, Italy (AP) — Jean Marc Renard of Belgium retained his European super-featherweight title with a seventh-round technical knockout over Italian challenger Antonio Renzo. The referee stopped the bout after the seventh round following the ring doctor's examination of the deep cut over Renzo's left eye. The 30-year-old Belgian dominated the fight Wednesday night from the start.

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Soviets stage 2nd nuclear test; reject U.S. charges

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union had detonated its second underground nuclear explosion in the two weeks since the Kremlin ended a 19-month halt in nuclear weapons testing.

At the same time, a Kremlin spokesman rejected as "speculations and outright lies" U.S. charges of Soviet cheating on arms accords.

But the spokesman, Boris D. Pyadyshov, expressed optimism that the superpowers could soon agree to rid Europe of their medium-range missiles. He said Soviet envoys to the Geneva arms talks had been told "to work for agreement in the shortest time possible."

The underground nuclear explosion in Soviet Kazakhstan on Thursday was the second since Feb. 26 when the Kremlin ended the test moratorium that had been a centerpiece of Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev's foreign policy.

Soviet officials urged the United States to halt testing and have asserted that the American refusal to make the test freeze mutual forced the Kremlin to resume testing.

The unilateral Soviet moratorium was announced on Aug. 6, 1982, the 40th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan.

Before the February resumption, the last Soviet blast had been recorded on July 25, 1982.

The Soviet news agency (TASS) said that at 5 a.m. Moscow time at the Semipalatinsk test range, a nuclear device was detonated with a yield of "up to 20 kilotons," the force of the U.S. atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

TASS said the blast at the site 2,800 kilometres south west of Moscow had been conducted "with a view to upgrading military technology," but the news agency provided no further details.

"The Soviet Union had to interrupt its moratorium," Mr. Pyadyshov told a news briefing at the Soviet Foreign Ministry following the test.

Mr. Pyadyshov declined to elaborate on the purposes of the explosion, referring reporters to the TASS announcement.

He used the briefing to attack a U.S. report on the Soviet Union's observance of arms accords submitted by President Ronald Reagan to Congress on Tuesday.

"It is full of speculations and outright lies about the Soviet Union's actions," Mr. Pyadyshov said.

He said the test was necessary because of the American refusal to make the test freeze mutual forced the Kremlin to resume testing.

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said. "It might have been taken from a comic strip."

Mr. Pyadyshov specifically rejected Mr. Reagan's suggestion that the Soviets might not have adhered to their 19-month halt in testing.

"How low ethical and moral standards have fallen in Washington is limited at by the claims that the Soviet Union might have secretly violated its moratorium," the Soviet spokesman said.

Mr. Reagan's report renewed charges that the Soviets have violated the anti-ballistic missile treaty by building a radar at Krasnoyarsk and have repeatedly violated the SALT II treaty by deploying a new ICBM and using encrypted telemetry during missile tests.

The president also accused the Soviets of "regularly permitting the release of nuclear debris into the atmosphere beyond the borders of the USSR" during tests.

The U.S. State Department on Wednesday charged that the Soviet Union's blast on Feb. 26 caused fallout in the atmosphere that was detected outside Soviet territory.

"In the past, there have been ungrounded allegations by the United States with regard to violations," Mr. Pyadyshov said in response to the State Department charge. "I am afraid that this time we have another example."

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Superpower nuclear arsenal reportedly doubled in 1980

LONDON (R) — The strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union will have doubled during the 1980s to around 30,000 warheads, according to a new study.

The report, by the University of Bradford's influential school of peace studies, said disarmament efforts over the past 14 years have failed and that ever more accurate weapons capable of a first strike against an opponent's missile sites were increasing in number.

"The development and production of strategic nuclear weapons is probably at its highest level in history," the report said, adding there has been no successful agreement on nuclear arms control since 1973.

"The processes of multilateral arms negotiation have so far failed to have any impact on the strategic nuclear arms race," it said.

Superpower strategic arsenals increased from around 15,000 warheads in 1980 to 20,000 in 1985 and will reach an estimated 30,000 by 1990, with a further generation of nuclear weapons already being researched for deployment during the next decade, the report said.

But it said an agreement to reduce medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe would represent a degree of progress and could lead to a general improvement in East-West relations.

Medium-range missiles, or "intermediate-range nuclear forces" (INF), are defined as those that can travel up to 5,000 kilometres. Strategic weapons have a longer range.

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Chernobyl trial to start soon, Soviet aide says

MOSCOW (R) — The people held responsible for the accident last April at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant will stand trial soon, a senior Soviet atomic energy official said Friday.

Andronik Petrosyants, head of the State Committee for Atomic Energy, said the trial would open in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev.

An explosion and fire at the plant's fourth reactor killed 31 people and spread a cloud of radioactive particles across most of Europe.

He did not name the people who would stand trial or say how many there were. "This is an affair of the prosecutor and the judiciary," he told reporters. "It will be known at the trial who has been brought to trial and for what."

"All I can say for sure is that it will be soon in Kiev, Mr. Petrosyants said, adding that he did not know what penalties might face anyone convicted."

The fourth reactor exploded on April 26 last year and sent radiation over much of Europe and beyond.

Soviet officials blamed the disaster on a series of reckless experiments by staff at Chernobyl.

The plant director, its chief engineer and other personnel were subsequently fired.

Mr. Petrosyants declined to say if these officials were among the people who would stand trial.

Parliament in uproar over Gandhi-Singh row

NEW DELHI (R) — Opposition members stormed out of parliament Friday as a simmering row between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Indian President Zail Singh burst into the open.

The opposition walked out when the speaker, Balam Jhakar, refused to allow discussion of a letter from the president criticising Mr. Gandhi that was published in a New Delhi newspaper.

The letter, published by the Indian Express and addressed to "My Dear Rajiv," contained unprecedented public charges by the 71-year-old Sikh president against the 42-year-old prime minister.

It said Mr. Gandhi had misformed parliament on March 3 by declaring that he kept Mr. Singh briefed on major national issues and also consulted him.

"The factual position is somewhat at variance with what has been stated by you," Mr. Singh's letter declared. It was dated March 9.

Asked to comment on the letter, a presidential spokesman declined to confirm or deny its validity. "You can say I plead ignorance," he told Reuters.

The Indian press has recently been packed with reports of bad relations between Mr. Gandhi and the president, who was elected by parliament under former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and whose five-year term ends this summer.

Mr. Singh is currently delaying signing into law a government bill empowering authorities to intercept mail in special circumstances involving national security. He has suggested modifications to the government but has received no response.

Mr. Singh's letter, referring to traditional meetings and consultations regularly held between previous Indian presidents and prime ministers, told Mr. Gandhi: "I am constrained to say that certain well-established conventions have not been followed..."

"It is also distressing that constitutional provisions regarding furnishing of information to the president have not been consistently followed," the letter added.

Opposition members of the Lok Sabha (Lower House) left to their feet shouting for a discussion of the letter as members of Mr. Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party shouted back at them.

Speaker Balam Jhakar pleaded for order for 15 minutes as he refused to allow a discussion.

The speaker also refused opposition demands Thursday to permit discussion of the presidential office and status, ruling that any controversial mention of the presidency in parliament is unconstitutional.

Meanwhile three gunmen shot dead a Hindu political leader in the Sikh holy city Amritsar Thursday and killed a shopkeeper as separatist violence flared unabated in the north Indian state of Punjab, police said.

Thais end campaign after pushing warlord in to Burma

BANGKOK (R) — Thai forces have ended a 10-day campaign against Burmese opium warlord Khun Sa after capturing a string of bases in a mountainous northern frontier region, border police said Friday.

About 2,000 soldiers, border police and rangers backed by artillery and helicopters met little resistance as they pushed Khun Sa's forces into Burma, police Colonel Vichit Vetchasart told reporters.

He said the forces would remain in the region to prevent the ethnic Shan rebels from returning.

Thailand has vowed to destroy the drug empire of Khun Sa, top warlord in the lawless "Golden Triangle" opium-growing region straddling Burma, Thailand and Laos.

Heroin and opium from the region are smuggled to Western countries through Thailand and have also caused a serious local drug problem.

Army Chief Chavalit Yongchaiyudh said last month Thai forces planned to strike across the border at bases of the Shan, an ethnic minority fighting the Burmese government for autonomy but they have so far stayed inside Thailand.

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He said the plant's first and second reactors were working at full capacity now and the third unit would come on stream in the second half of this year.

He said construction of a fifth reactor at Chernobyl had started and would be followed by the building of a sixth.

An American specialist who recently visited Chernobyl, Frederick Bernthal, said emissions of radiation from the fourth reactor, which has been buried in concrete, were very low.

Bernthal, a member of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said: "The emission of radiation from the surface to the atmosphere is really very low indeed."

Mr. Bernthal said he and other American scientists had not been able to approach closely to the damaged fourth reactor, but added: "We did have the opportunity to observe direct on-line computer monitoring of the emissions that remain from the surface of the sarcophagus (in which the reactor is buried)."